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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/642,453	08/15/2003	Stefan Wolf	Harman.5848CON	1599
7590	10/16/2006			
			EXAMINER	
			TO, TUAN C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3663	

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DATE MAILED: 10/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/642,453	WOLF ET AL.
	Examiner Tuan C. To	Art Unit 3663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 August 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10 and 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9, 11-16 and 18-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 15 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 061206.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-9, 11-16, and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

As to claim 1, the support for the limitation "a plurality of multimedia unit" can be found in the applicant's specification, wherein a plurality of multimedia units includes, but not limited to, audio radio receiving system, a cassette unit, an audio CD player, loudspeakers, a television receiver, a VCR, a DVD player, a navigation system, a mobile telephone, a fax machine, an onboard computer, a keyboard, and a monitor. The applicant has provided an example of equipment (10) is equipped with a navigation system so that an operator can request traffic information from the external unit (22). It is found no support for the limitation "receiving from multimedia units requests for the radio connection". It is important to note that just only a specific unit that contains a communication device for transmitting/receiving data can be used to request for a radio connection with an external unit. Otherwise, a single multimedia unit without a communication unit such as VCR, DVD player, a keyboard, or a monitor cannot be used for requesting a radio connection.

As to claims 6, 13, and 21, the limitations as recited in those claims are similar to claim 1, therefore they are rejected the same.

Claims 2-5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-16, 18, 19, 22, and 23 are dependent claims, thus they are rejected as well as the independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 21.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 20 recites the limitation "coordination unit" in claim 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9, 11-16, and 19-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-9, 11-16, and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Tanihira et al. (US 5574514A).

Regarding claims 1, 6, 13, 15, 19, and 21, Tanihira et al. teaches a vehicle multimedia system and a method of data exchange including an interface and a plurality of multimedia units each connected to a data bus in the vehicle comprising: establishing

a radio connection between the interface unit and an external unit; coordinating/arbitrating at the interface unit requests for radio connection to the external unit. In Tanihira et al, the commander (11) is the user interface unit, a plurality of multimedia units such as TV tuner (41), navigation unit (43), CD player (33), etc. are connected to the data bus (71) (Tanihira et al, figure 2). Tanihira et al. does not mention a radio connection between the remote controller (64) and the interface unit (11) as shown in figure 2, however, a radio connection would be existed when the remote controller (64) is operated (Tanihira et al., figure 2).

While patent drawings are not drawn to scale, relationships clearly shown in the drawings of a reference patent cannot be disregarded in determining the patentability of claims. See In re Mraz, 59 CCPA 866, 455 F.2d 1069, 173 USPQ 25 (1972).

As to claim 2, Tanihira et al. further teaches transmitting data/commands over the radio connection in both direction between the interface unit (11) and the external unit (64) (Tanihira et al., figure 2).

As to claim 3, Tanihira et al. teaches that the data is received at the interface unit via the radio connection when a communication is established between the remote controller (64) and the interface unit (11), the interface unit then sends the data to said multimedia unit via the bus (71) (Tanihira et al., figure 2).

As to claims 4, 5, 22, Tanihira et al. also teaches "determining a sequence for processing simultaneously received requests (Tanihira et al., column 10, lines 41-47).

As to claim 7, Tanihira et al. teaches that the interface unit (11), as shown in figure 2, located at an arbitrary location along the data bus (71).

As to claim 8, the interface unit receives the data from the remote controller (64) and sends the data over the data bus (71) to the multimedia units such as TV tuner (41), navigation unit (43), CD player (33), etc.

As to claims 9, 14, and 16, the interface unit (11) is a command unit, which situated in the data bus (71), said the interface unit acts as an operation unit.

As to claims 11, 12, and 23, the interface unit (11), as illustrated by Tanihira et al, is formed by a plurality unit including means for receiving a request from at least one multimedia unit, for processing the received request, and for communicating with the external unit (64).

Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner,



Tuan C To

October 6, 2006